

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____


SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 03000346 Date Listed: 05/02/03

Allemon, Christian, House Jefferson WV
Property Name County State

N/A
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.


Signature of the Keeper

5-2-03
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

10. Geographical Data

The acreage of the property is <1.

This information has been confirmed with WVSHPO staff by telephone.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without attachment)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service 19
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Allemong, Christian, House
other name/site number: Janney, Amos, House

2. Location

street & number: 35 Hardesty Road not for publication: N/A
city/town: Summit Point vicinity: X
state: WV county: Jefferson code: 037 zip code: 25446

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet.)

Susan M. Pierce
Signature of Certifying Official

3/13/03
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Date

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of Certifying Official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Date

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4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

☒ entered in the National Register

☐ See continuation sheet.

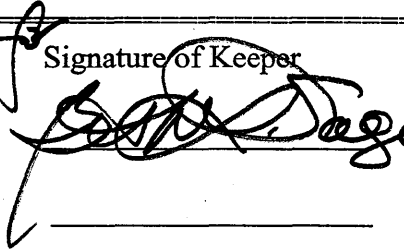
☐ determined eligible for the
National Register

☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register

☐ removed from the National Register

☐ other (explain):

 5-2-03

5. Classification

Ownership of Property:

(Check as many boxes as apply)

☒ private

☐ public-local

☐ public-State

☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

☒ building(s)

☐ district

☐ site

☐ structure

☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	TOTAL

Name of related multiple property listing N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

Current Functions

DOMESTIC/ Single dwelling

DOMESTIC/ Single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Materials

EARLY REPUBLIC

Other: I-house

Foundation: STONE/ Limestone

Walls: STONE/ Limestone

Roof: Metal

Other: Wood

Narrative Description

(See continuation on sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

____ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

____ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

 X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

____ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

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Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

☐ **B** removed from its original location.

☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.

☐ **D** a cemetery.

☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

☐ **F** a commemorative property.

☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

Architecture

Period of Significance

1830

Significant Dates

1830

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(See continuation sheets.)

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
☐ previously listed in the National Register
☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

☐ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☒ Other

Name of Repository: Owners, Valarie Owens & Mike Dunkum

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property:

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

Quad Map Name: Berryville

A 18 242909 4347138
Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description

(See continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(See continuation sheet.)

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11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Valarie Owens & Mike Dunkum, with assistance by Jennifer W. Murdock,
WVSHPO

Organization: WV State Historic Preservation Office Date: January 18, 2003

Street & Number: 1900 Kanawha Blvd, E. Telephone: 304/558-0240

City or Town: Charleston State: WV ZIP: 25305

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

Name: Valarie Owens & Mike Dunkum

Street & Number: Route 1, Box 35 Telephone: 304/725-3735

City or Town: Summit Point State: WV Zip: 25446

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LOCATION AND SETTING

The Christian Allemong House is located on the south side of Hardesty Road, approximately one mile southwest of the community of Summit Point, Jefferson County, West Virginia. The property is located to the west of the state border between Virginia and West Virginia, delineated by the counties of Clarke and Jefferson respectively. A simple roadway leads from Hardesty Road to the house, terminating at a circular drive to the south of the house. Alternative access can be gained from the Jamestown road. The house is situated within a primarily forested section, the area around the dwelling being cleared for about 500 yards in all directions. The immediate setting of the main house and outbuildings consists of a grass lawn with a few prominent trees accenting the property as landscape features.

RESOURCES

The Christian Allemong House (ca. 1830) Contributing Building

Exterior description:

The Christian Allemong House property is oriented to the east. It is a two-story, five-bay, gable-roofed stone building built in the Georgian style, with elements of later Greek Revival detailing. From within the basement it is evident that all four corners of the building are placed directly upon bedrock. This firm footing secures the massive limestone building that measures 50' 2" x 20' 2".

The exterior of the house is constructed of roughly-cut limestone. The courses of stone are laid in a somewhat random pattern, terminating in clearly defined quoins at the edge of the building. The quoin detail, along with finely wrought window openings of smooth stone lintels with rusticated keystones and prominent stone sills, are hallmarks of the Georgian style. Although in form this building is a classic I-house, being of two stories, one room deep, and consisting of two rooms separated by a formal center entry hall, the simplicity of the exterior embellishment exhibits a certain refinement. At ground level exist two vented openings, which function as a source of light and air for the full height basement.

The principal entrance is on the east side. This consists of a central six-paneled door surmounted by a rectangular transom of three lights. Due to the depth of the masonry walls, the doorway is recessed and encased in wood. Windows on the lower level of this elevation are sliding-sash, and exhibit 9 over 6 lights. No shutters are currently extant on the building, although appropriate hardware remains in place. Upper story sash windows are 6 over 6 lights. The east elevation terminates in a molded cornice, with copper gutter. The circa-1940 porch is a replica of the original porch. The roofline for this early appendage can be identified by the cut-stone outline of

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a pediment of some sort above the entrance. Both the current porch and the roof are covered in standing-seam metal, a change from the original material of white oak shingles.

The north elevation contains only two windows at the attic level. These are four-pane, fixed-sash, casements. A carved date stone is located on the upper portion of the gable, on which the inscription reads, "Augst 1830."

The west elevation features a six panel back-door to the north of center. This side of the house also exhibits the gable end of a small single story limestone addition that measures 16' 6" x 11' 5". It is believed that this was added to the original building in the first half of the twentieth century to accommodate a kitchen. Four windows of 6 over 6, with sliding sash and weight system, illuminate the workspace within. A brick chimney protrudes from the standing seam, 4" pitch roof. The south side forms a catslide roof over a 12' 8" x 5' slate porch laid upon a limestone foundation.

The entrance to the addition is on the south side. This addition is done with great sensitivity and if the exterior evidence of stepped cut stone is to be believed, covers the original rear access to the main building. A cellar door is evident at ground level. The gable ends of the original building, unlike the east and west elevations, have no discernable cornice. As on the north elevation, a set of four-pane fixed-sash windows flank the internal chimney at the attic story.

Interior description

The Christian Allemong House interior consists of finished living space on the first and second floors, with an unfinished attic and basement. The first and second floors consist of two rooms flanking a wide center hall with stairway. The rear addition contains the modern kitchen. A modern bath has been placed in the landing of the second story hall. All portions of the 1830 house, including woodwork, doors, floors, mantels, moldings, surrounds, and cupboards remain, with the exception of several window-sash lost to weather and rot.

On the first floor, both rooms contain ornamental fireplaces at each gable end. These two formal rooms have original heart pine flooring, cross and bible doors, deep recessed wood window panels, and window and door trim with bulls-eye motifs. Molding and bull's eyes have a different profile in each room. Wood window panels are also of a different design from room to room. In the south room, built-in cabinets with paneled doors flank the ornate mantelpiece. This high-style example actually incorporates a vernacular interpretation of egg and dart molding along the frieze of the molding detail. The north room differs in the fireplace surround, with a slightly altered frieze in a rope detail. One can image the workmen, possibly slaves, striving to emulate classical ornament to the best of their ability.

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The center stairway, with original walnut handrail, has three landings per level in the ascent to the attic story. A 6 over 6 window is located on the landing between the first and second floor and a 3 over 3 window is between the second and third floors. There are two slender balusters per tread, with each step featuring a decorative carved scroll applied to stair carriage.

The second level follows the plan of the floor below, with two rooms separated by the stair hall. As in the lower level, all finishes are original. Each room has it's original mantelpiece, one of which is reputed to be a classic example of a Winchester (Virginia) mantle. A modern bathroom has been placed in the small room at the top of the stairs. This room appears to have been the result of a later, nineteenth century subdivision of the second story landing.

The attic story is currently unfinished, with exposed debarked cedar logs serving as rafters. Evidence of lath indicates that the attic space to the north was finished with plaster at some date. The south attic remains unfinished and currently houses the HVAC equipment.

An updated kitchen is located in the circa-1940 one-story addition at the rear.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Christian Allemong House is significant under Criterion C for Architecture. A classic I-house built of masonry, the home embodies the distinctive characteristics of a Georgian style building featuring large quoins and distinct window detailing of carved stone lintels with raised keystones. Built in 1830 at the beginning of the nineteenth century when national and romantic styles were in favor, the house illustrates the tendency of earlier trends in building design to remain popular, particularly as settlers traveled to new regions. The limestone exterior exhibits the work of a master stonemason, with stones being carefully selected and shaped. The house is remarkable in that aside from a few rotten window sash, all mantels, woodwork, doors, and floors remain intact, with the only items missing being original locksets and doorknobs. The major alterations to the building appear to have been the addition of a rear kitchen and the remodeling of the front porch in the 1940s. The period of significance is 1830.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

If the date stone residing in the north gable of the Christian Allemong House can be trusted, construction of the large stone building was finished sometime in August 1830. At this time the property was owned by Christian Allemong. Little is known about Allemong, except what can be gleaned from fragments recorded in the deed and will books that reside at the Jefferson, WV and Frederick, VA County courthouses. From the research it appears that Christian Allemong was a prominent landholder, one that could be charged to serve as trustee for other's estates. From Allemong's will we know that he was born in Germantown, Pennsylvania on December 6, 1766 and died April 21, 1835 in Clarke county Virginia. Sadly, it appears he lived only 5 years from the date his home was completed.

Allemong crafted his will sometime before May 1833, at the age of 67. In it, he recorded his desire that his wife Fanny (or Frances) be provided with a bed, bedstead and bedding. He also requested that his estate be sold immediately upon his death with the stipulation that \$4,000.00 be placed in an account and the interest paid annually to his wife for her support. He understood that the principal would not pay much in the early years and requested that the executor of his estate pay his wife \$240.00 per year. Clearly, Christian Allemong was an affluent landowner, as this was a substantial sum of money at the beginning of the nineteenth century.

It is interesting to note that Allemong was born in Pennsylvania, as it may give a clue to the stylistic heritage of the house. It is well-documented that most of the early settlement along Bullskin Creek in Jefferson County occurred after 1760, and the Allemong family was among the first. The settlement of the lower Shenandoah Valley was begun primarily by Pennsylvania

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Germans who were moving in a continuous line west along the Susquehanna and from the counties of York and Lancaster. The early settlement of New Mecklenburg (now Shepherdstown) in 1726 gives testament to this heritage. It would not be unreasonable to expect that someone who had grown up familiar with the Georgian style stone houses of Germantown, would seek to emulate this architecture on his agricultural estate.

Further evidence of the grand size of the Allemong estate can be inferred Christian's will. In it, he desires that his slaves, David, Mary, Susan, Jane, Sarah, Henry, Samuel and George be granted \$200.00 for their removal to Liberia. This passage is remarkable in that it offers manumission to the enslaved and elucidates each by name.

As Christian decreed, his estate was sold at auction on August 20, 1835 and was purchased by Newton Boley. The transaction as recorded in the deed book, describes the 276+ acres in question as residing, "about a mile from head of Bullskin and about half a mile from Winchester and Potomac Railroad." Newton Boley does not appear to have lived in the property, as he promptly sold it to Benjamin Boley on October 4, 1837. The heirs of Benjamin Boley sold a portion of the above property (131 acres) to Amos Janney on September 14, 1848.

It was Amos Janney who occupied the house (1848-1868) during twenty years of turmoil and change as the American Civil War tore Jefferson County from Virginia and placed it in the new state of West Virginia. The War would come close to the property. Legend has it that during the War, Union soldiers wintered in the area to the north of the Christian Allemong House. While there they dug four wells, one of which still remains.

Apparently Janney was, like Allemong, a man of wealth. The National Register nomination for the "Lee-Longworth House" in Bolivar, WV has a note regarding the fact that 196 acres were purchased in 1830 by Amos Janney. "Amos Janney divided the parcels into smaller parcels, selling slightly more than 15 acres including the house for \$1,400 on December 8, 1831..."

This is substantiated by the August 1850 census which describes Amos Janney as a 60-year-old farmer with real estate valued at \$10,690. Also listed in this census is John I. Janney, a 21-year-old farmer. Residing at the dwelling noted at #992 are Sarah B. Janney, 38; Josephine E. Janney, 19; schoolboys Edward H. Janney, 11 and William Janney, 9; baby Sarah Janney, 10 months; and George W. Janney, 4. Besides the family members at the site, the census notes 22-year-old German laborer Philip Tisel, 22-year-old merchant Charles Crockwell, and Hannah Moore, 20.

Although no remains of slave quarters are visible on the property, the 1850 slave census lists Amos Janney as owning two males, ages 38 and 16 and six females, ages 28, 28, 22, 9, 2 and 2.

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There is a local tradition that the African-American community of Jamestown (located approximately a quarter mile to the west of the house) was originally the slave compound of the Christian Allemong property. This has not been substantiated through research, but the location and remaining community give rise to the distinct possibility that this is indeed possible.

The 1852 S. Howell Brown map of Jefferson County Virginia notes the house with the name "Amos Janney." The map also indicates a store located on the corner of the Janney property boundary where today the Summit Point Road intersects with Hardesty Road (Winchester-Charles Town Road).

After Janney's death the property passed through several hands, many who never inhabited the mansion house. The current owners purchased the property in 1988 and have begun an intensive restoration/rehabilitation of the historic home.

Architectural Significance:

The Christian Allemong House is a fine surviving example of Georgian domestic architecture in Jefferson County. On the exterior, the symmetry of the stone facade is surmounted by side gable roof and interior gable end chimneys at both ends of the house. The windows are slightly larger on the lower level, allow the building to rise to a molded cornice detail that exists on both east and west elevations. These larger windows also illuminate the interior spaces that were intended for public use.

The plan of the Christian Allemong House illustrates the changing perceptions of space and function. The strong symmetry of the exterior seems to indicate perfect unity and harmony, but the interior plan has clearly defined the public and private areas. Thus it reflects the changing atmosphere of the new Republic. This house harkens back to an earlier or Colonial period, not surprising given the age of the original owner. It exhibits characteristics common to stone buildings built in the Germantown, Pennsylvania area, the birthplace of the owner.

The property also has much in common stylistically with several other National Register properties in Jefferson County. It is remarkably similar in appearance to "Cold Spring" located in Shepherdstown, WV built in 1793, the primary differences being less refinement in the exterior detailing around windows and doors in that building. Even closer in appearance is the "Rockland" property located on State Route 480 in Shepherdstown. This house dates to a period before 1812 and it shares numerous stylistic details with the Christian Allemong House. Like the Christian Allemong House the house is built of local limestone in a random coursing terminating

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in corner blocks arranged to appear as quoins. The front facade is five bays arranged symmetrically around the central entrance. So too, the original windows are dressed with jack-arches and keystones and are 9 over 6 lights. It should be noted that these two examples were built several years prior to the construction of Christian Allemong House, thus confirming the enduring style of the Georgian style for homes of prosperous landholders.

However close in appearance to other buildings in the county, the Christian Allemong House has the advantage of containing the majority of it's original interior details. Aside from a few rotten window sash, all mantels, woodwork, doors, and floors remain intact, with the only items missing being original locksets and doorknobs. The slight alterations of a small rear kitchen and the remodeling of the front porch in the 1940s do not detract for the significance of this building.

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Bibliography

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Richard J. Henry, 1997.

Between the Shenandoah and the Potomac, Historic Homes of Jefferson County, West Virginia.
Jefferson County Historical Society, 1990, 68.

Blumenson, John S. Identifying American Architecture.
California: Altamira Press, 1995.

Brown, S. Howell. Map of Jefferson County, Virginia. 1852, 1854

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Bushong, Millard Kessler. A History of Jefferson County, West Virginia.
Jefferson Publishing Co., West Virginia, 1941.

Glassie, Henry. Vernacular Architecture.
Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2000, 118-131.

"Index to Map of Jefferson County Virginia by S. Howell Brown from Actual Survey with Farm Limits 1852." Magazine of the Jefferson County Historical Society, Supplement to Vol. XLV, December 1979, 8 and 10.

Jefferson County Deed Book, Deed 3, Page 319, Jefferson County Court House, Charles Town, WV.

Jefferson County Deed Book, Deed 22 Page 251, Jefferson County Court House, Charles Town, WV.

Jefferson County Deed Book, Deed 38, Page 152, Jefferson County Court House, Charles Town, WV.

"Jefferson County Slave Census for 1850." Magazine of the Jefferson County Historical Society, Vol. LXI, December 1995, 85.

Last Will and Testament of Christian Allemong.
Will Book 8, page 79, Clarke County, VA.
(Also recorded in Frederick Co., VA, Will Book 31, Page 21, May 27, 1833)

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Chicago: A Warner & Co. 1890, reprinted Virginia Book Company, 1972.

Phillips, Steven J. Old-House Dictionary. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1994.

“Schedule 1-Free Inhabitants in 28th District in the County of Jefferson, State of Virginia,
Enumerated by Me on the 15th Day of August 1850. James J. Miller, Ass’t Marshall.”
Magazine of the Jefferson County Historical Society, Vol. LVI, December 1990, 152.

Williams, Henry Lionel and Ottalie K. A Guide to Old American Houses 1700-1900.
New York: A.S. Barnes & Co., 1962, 50.

Interviews:

Conversations with Harvey Kercheval of Charles Town, West Virginia, 1999. Mr. Kercheval’s family owned the Christian Allemong House (see Jefferson County Deed Book 140, page 510 for verification of Kercheval ownership) and related the Yankee encampment story to Mike Dunkum.

Visit from Mr. Harris, African-American resident of Jamestown, 2001. Mr. Harris told Mike Dunkum and Valarie Owens that Jamestown was the slave compound for the Christian Allemong House and that the small stone house in Jamestown served as an overseer’s home.

National Register Nominations:

“Cold Spring,” Shepherdstown, West Virginia. Jefferson County

“Rockland,” Shepherdstown, West Virginia. Jefferson County.

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Verbal Boundary Description

Jefferson County WV Deed Book 617, Page 127, Kabletown District

The boundary of the Christian Allemong House is shown as the solid line on the accompanying plat map entitled "Allemong, Christian, House."

Boundary Justification

House and 10 acres are part of original Allemong property (276 acres, 2 rood, 32 ½ perches) described as "about a mile from head of Bullskin and about half a mile from Winchester and Potomac Railroad" in Jefferson County WV Deed Book 20, Page 430, 20 August 1835. The present, modern boundary encloses ten acres and is described in the Jefferson County deed book, number 617, page 127, Kabletown District.

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Name of Property: Allemong, Christian, House
Address Route 1, Box 35, Hardesty Road
Town Summit Point, WV 25446
County Jefferson

Photographer: Valarie Owens

Date: 6 June 2002

Negatives: WV SHPO, Charleston, WV

Photo 1 of 14: Front facade (facing east) and south elevation; camera facing northwest

Photo 2 of 14: Rear (facing west) and south elevation; camera facing northeast

Photo 3 of 14: North end; camera facing south

Photo 4 of 14: Southwest side; camera facing northeast

Photo 5 of 14: Date stone on north end; camera facing south

Photo 6 of 14: Front door; camera facing west

Photo 7 of 14: First floor south room; camera facing south

Photo 8 of 14: First floor south room mantel detail: camera facing south

Photo 9 of 14: Second floor south room, camera facing north

Photo 10 of 14: Second floor stairway; camera facing southwest.

Photo 11 of 14: Staircase from third floor; camera looking down

Photo 12 of 14: Attic rafters; camera facing southeast

Photo 13 of 14: First floor south room; camera facing north

Photo 14 of 14: First floor front door; camera facing east

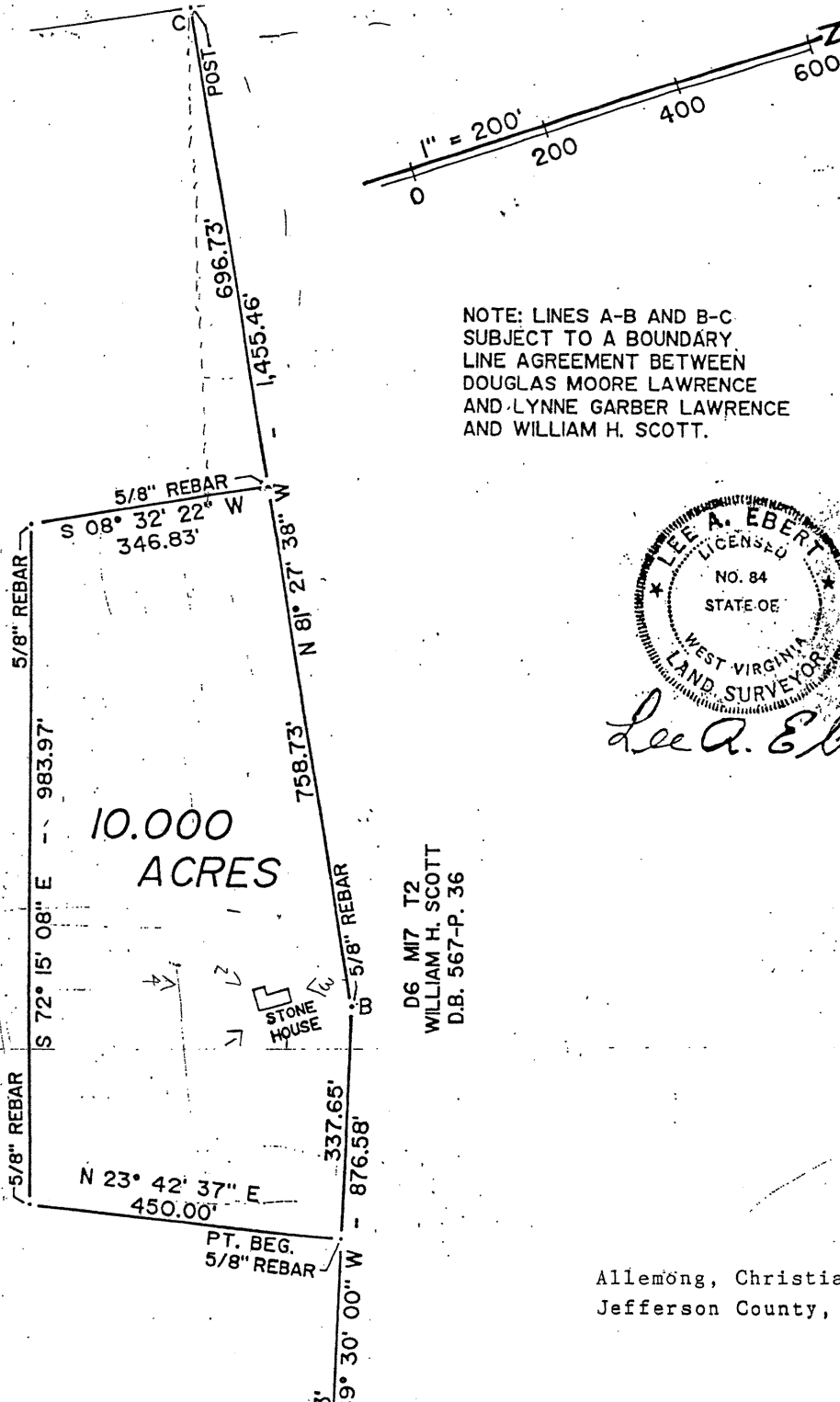
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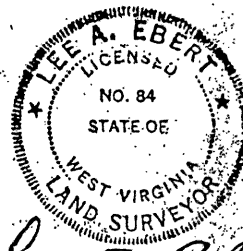
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Section number Plat Map

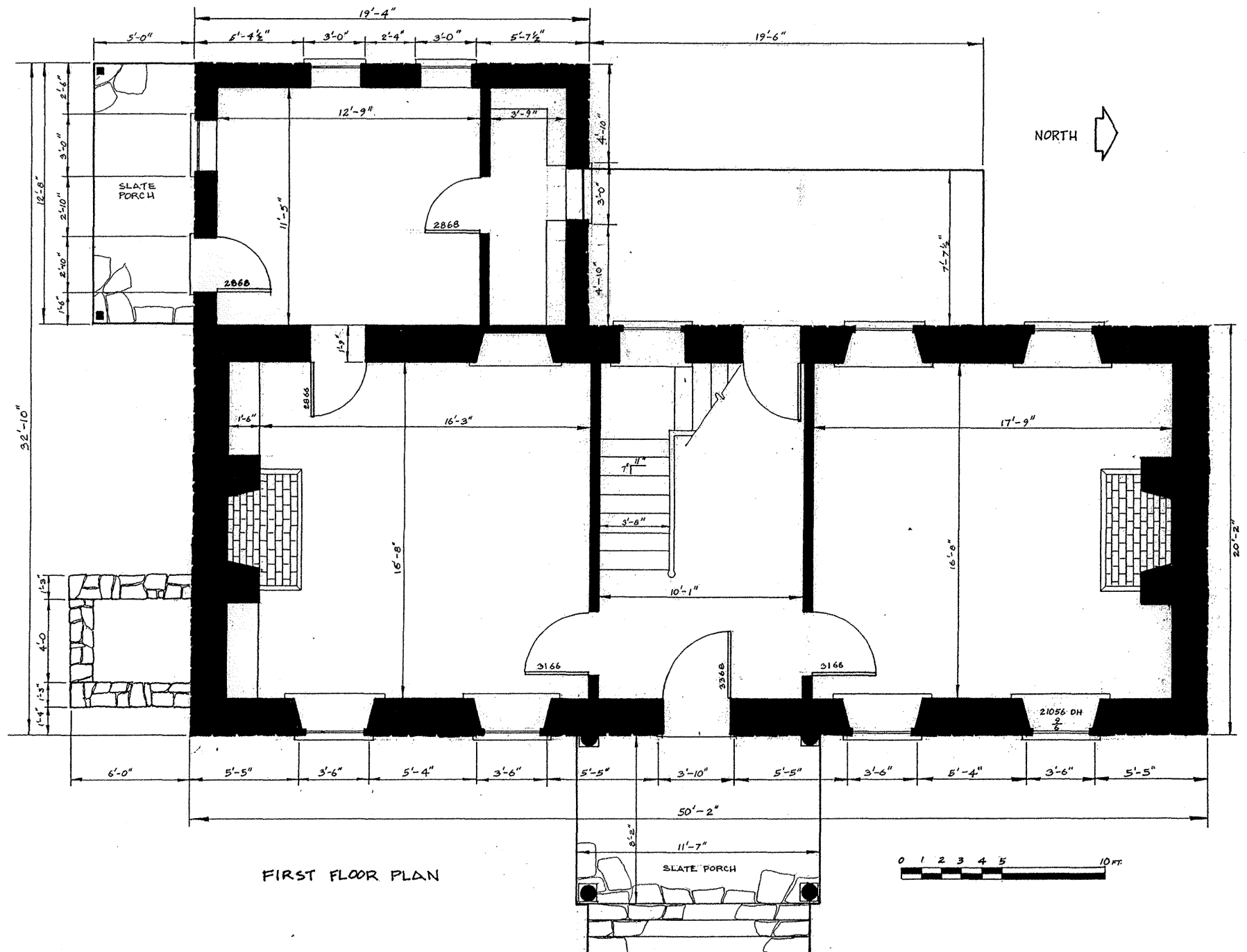


NOTE: LINES A-B AND B-C
SUBJECT TO A BOUNDARY
LINE AGREEMENT BETWEEN
DOUGLAS MOORE LAWRENCE
AND LYNNE GARBER LAWRENCE
AND WILLIAM H. SCOTT.



Lee A. Ebert

Allemon, Christian, House
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